



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



# 2014 Drought Response Report

## State Operations Center

### Situation Brief – April 17, 2014



# Situational Summary

On January 17, 2014 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for drought conditions. The State Operation Center (SOC) is activated to implement objectives in support of the Governor's priorities. The lack of winter rain and snowfall has resulted in extremely dry conditions in many parts of the State. Reservoir levels are down significantly from where they should be on average for this time of year. If conditions continue without substantial rainfall, severe impacts to municipal water supplies, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities are likely in store for the State over the next few months. Negative economic impacts will also result.

Dry weather continues through this week, with a slight chance of showers later this week along the state's northern border. Any precipitation will likely be minimal.

**\*\*As our state's rainy season ends this month, very heavy rain and snow would have to fall throughout California every day for the remainder of April to near average annual rain and snowfall levels. Even with such precipitation, California would remain in drought conditions, due to low water supplies from the two previous dry years.\*\***

The drought could result in severe impacts to the municipal water supplies, wells, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities for several months. The SOC continues to be activated to monitor the situation statewide, and support regional and local operational areas.

# Situational Summary (cont'd)

Information as of 4/17/14

- The Taskforce continues to meet regularly to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought.
- The most recent snowpack survey, conducted on April 1, recorded California snowpack at 32% of normal. A more recent update using automated devices shows snowpack at 28% of normal as of Sunday, April 13.
- DWR has announced that water essential for health and safety will be delivered through the state water project in spite of the zero allocation policy. Deliveries will be boosted if storms produce enough rain and snow to increase reservoir storage and the snow pack.
- Cal OES continues to gather drought-related costs from state agencies and local governments.

# Drought Impacts

## 1. Drinking Water (Information as of 4/14/14)

- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is developing questions that will be included in the upcoming Annual Report (AER) to gather data on water conservation and drought preparedness. The data collection will begin 3/10/2014, with a deadline to complete of 4/18/2014.
- CDPH has established and continually updates the CDPH Drinking Water website, as needed at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/DroughtPreparedness.aspx>.
- CDPH activated an Information Line to answer concerns or questions about public drinking water systems. Contact (855) 737-1796, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, effective Monday, February 24, 2014.
- Vulnerable Water Systems: The California Department of Public Health is providing technical and funding assistance to help several communities facing near-term drinking water shortages and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine where else it can provide support. Updated information can be found at the CDPH Drinking Water Program website

## 2. Fires (Information as of 4/14/14)

- 890 fires have been reported across the state since January 1, burning 2,354 acres. This year's fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of 338 fires, burning 1,074 acres. 16 new fires were reported over the past week, most of which were kept small thanks to additional firefighters, fire engines and firefighting aircraft added during this dry winter. Weekly Drought Briefing Monday, April 7, 2014

# Drought Impacts (continued)

## 3. Economic Impacts (Information as of 3/12/14)

- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared two more California counties, Riverside and San Diego official disaster areas, bringing the total number of counties in this category to 56 of the 58 counties. Farmers in these counties are eligible for low interest emergency loans and other disaster assistance programs. The remaining two counties (Imperial and San Francisco) are covered as "contiguous" areas – as such, all counties in California are eligible for assistance.
- By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared this disaster on February 26, 2014.
- No information is available yet regarding impact on labor due to drought. Employment Development Department (EDD) will be sending weekly updates.

## 4. Agricultural Impacts (Information as of 4/8/14)

- CDFA will hold two public stakeholder meetings to discuss its new Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program, as well as receive comments and suggestions for the program's implementation. These meetings will take place on April 11, 2014 at CDFA headquarters, and on April 18, 2014 at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center in Modesto.
- CDFA Secretary Karen Ross will hold an additional agricultural stakeholder call regarding the drought on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

## 5. Community Impacts (Information as of 4/8/14)

- CDFA's drought webpage has been updated to include additional community resources with links and descriptions for the following programs from USDA's Farm Service Agency: Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP), and Tree Assistance Program (TAP). These programs will be open for sign-up in mid-April, 2014 (exact date unknown).



# Federal Resources/Actions

Information as of 4/14/14

- **President signs the Drought Information Act:** Congress passed and the President signed a federal bill to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act (NIDIS). This act enables a federal early warning system for droughts by providing information, forecasts and assessments to vulnerable states. NIDIS was championed by the Western Governors Association, based on the drought vulnerability of western states.
- The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources last week released a Drought Operations Plan for the rest of 2014. This plan outlines planned operations of the state and federal water projects through the fall as California transitions from the rainy season into several dry months. This plan provides a framework of water management decisions that intends to balance key water needs during a third straight dry year. This plan will be implemented with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the State Water Resources Control Board.  
The overall objectives of the plan include:
  - o Closely manage scarce water resources in the coming dry months and into next year
  - o Augment water exports from the Delta this spring for storage and use when possible
  - o Ensure adequate water supplies for drinking water, sanitation and firefighting
  - o Prevent saltwater from intruding into California's water delivery system
  - o Provide sufficient water for fish migration and spawning
  - o Meet water quality needs for Delta water users by keeping saltwater at bay

# Federal Resources/Actions (continued)

Information as of 4/17/14

- The current Drought Operations Plan, which took several weeks to produce, is based on water data as of early March. Decisions will be updated in the coming weeks based on the April water forecast currently being compiled, and will be further updated in the coming months based on changing conditions. Additional information and FAQs on the Drought Operations Plan can be found at [drought.ca.gov](http://drought.ca.gov).
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced last week that farmers and ranchers can sign-up for disaster assistance programs reestablished and strengthened by the 2014 Farm Bill, beginning on Tuesday (April 15). Speedy implementation of these emergency programs has been a top priority of USDA in order to support farmers and ranchers hurt by the current drought.

# State Resources

Information as of 3/10/14

Governor Brown signed emergency legislation that provides funding for shovel-ready water projects and emergency assistance to communities hurt by the drought. The proposal also streamlines state rules to enable more water recycling, strong enforcement of water rights and housing assistance to migrant workers. Funding in the bill includes:

- \$549 million for infrastructure grants to increase storm water capture and use of recycled water, improve management of groundwater storage, and strengthen water conservation.
- \$40 million from the proceeds of the state's cap-and-trade program to help local water agencies improve their water and energy efficiency, help farmers upgrade irrigation and water pumping systems to reduce water and energy use, and to enable retrofits in commercial and residential buildings that improve water and energy efficiency.
- \$25 million for emergency food assistance in areas hard-hit by the drought.
- \$21 million for housing-related assistance to drought victims.
- \$15 million to help communities that face drinking water shortages access alternative water supplies.
- \$14 million to improve groundwater management across the state, including help to disadvantaged communities with groundwater contamination exacerbated by the drought.

# State Resources

Information as of 4/14/14

- **Statewide fire staffing continues to expand:** Last week, CALFIRE added 17 fire engines to fire stations in Northern California, and will add 42 more engines to the region next week. Southern California continues to operate with 120 fire engines. CALFIRE has increased firefighter staffing this spring far earlier than normal amidst dry conditions and abnormally high wildfire activity.
- **Housing assistance for drought victims advances:** The California Department of Housing & Community Development announced last week \$21 million in grant funding for rental assistance to individuals impacted by the drought. Half of this funding (\$10 million) comes from emergency funding approved through state legislation, while \$11 million comes from federal HOME and CDBG funding programs. HCD is seeking public input on the proposed process for providing this assistance, which will be provided during peak unemployment periods created by the drought.
- **New Conservation Ads:** Save our Water, the state's coordinated water conservation campaign, has rolled out seven new print advertisements that will be displayed on billboards, in water agencies materials, and through social media outlets across the state. These ads, which are part of the "Californians Don't Waste" media program, reinforce Governor Brown's call for a 20% reduction in water use across California.

# State Resources

Information as of 4/14/14

- **State agencies hold workshop to facilitate water transfers:** The State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Water Resources will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, April 29 to solicit recommendations on how best to streamline the review process for temporary water transfers. State and federal agencies are working to streamline water transfers, which allow water rights holders to buy and sell water from each other, amidst severe constraints in water that can be delivered by the state and federal water projects for agricultural irrigation.
- **State, Federal and Tribal Collaboration:** The Governor's Tribal Liaison is expanding coordination with California tribal leaders regarding drought response. After multiple coordination calls between tribal leaders and state and federal agencies, this coordinating group has decided to initiate biweekly calls in order to coordinate drought response.
- **Small grants for drought-impacted farms.** Non-governmental groups continue to find creative ways to provide support to those impacted by drought. California Certified Organic Farmers and Community Alliance with Family Farmers have announced grants up to \$500 available to small, certified organic farms hurt the drought.
- **Cost Data:** Cal OES continues to gather drought-related costs from state agencies and local governments, which is reported weekly to the Drought Taskforce.
- **Governor's Drought Task Force:** The Taskforce continues to meet daily to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought

# State Advance/Strategic Planning

Information Current as of 4/17/14

State actions looking forward for 30, 60, 120 days ahead will focus on:

- State and federal funding and legislative actions.
- Agricultural support, including USDA programs and other assistance to farmers.
- Actions to address water system operations and water supply, including curtailments, transfers, delta emergency actions.
- Actions to assess and assist with emergency needs related to drinking water.
- Assessment of hydropower generation, and any direct or indirect impacts to the electricity supply.
- Actions to address long-term habitat preservation.
- Community support needs and delivery of needed services such as food, rental/housing assistance, utilities assistance and support to non-profit organizations.
- Public health and safety issues such as increased fire threat, security threats, and activation of contingency plans.
- Actions to anticipate and address air quality impacts from continuing drought.

# Current Missions

Information Current as of 4/17/14

## Current Missions:

- There are no current missions open at this time.
- Mission 2014-Inland-2185 Tuolumne County was completed on March 25, 2014.

# County Drought Task Force Meetings

Information as of 4/17/14

County Drought Task Force Upcoming Meetings		
Inland Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Butte	2/18/2014	5/19/2014
Kern	4/10/2014	
Madera	3/11/2014	4/29/2014
Merced	3/19/2014	4/17/2014
Modoc	2/12/2014	
Nevada	4/15/2014	
Placer	3/12/2014	
Plumas	4/14/2014	
Sacramento	4/11/2014	
San Joaquin	3/19/2014	4/17/2014
Siskiyou	3/12/2014	4/22/2014
Stanislaus	3/19/2014	5/8/2014
Sutter	3/13/2014	5/8/2014
Tehama	2/18/2014	5/19/2014
Tulare	4/14/2014	
Tuolumne	3/28/2014	5/1/2014
Coastal Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Mendocino	4/16/2014	
Monterey		
San Mateo	3/18/2014	
Santa Clara	2/27/2014	
Solano	3/31/2014	
Southern Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
San Luis Obispo	3/19/2014	
Santa Barbara	3/12/2014	Postponed
Orange	4/1/2014	



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# County Updates

## Local Government ( as of 4/14/14)

- **Water Agency Conservation Efforts:** The Association of California Water Agencies has identified several hundred local water agencies that have implemented water conservation actions. These water agencies are responding to the drought by implementing conservation programs, which include voluntary calls for reduced water usage and mandatory restrictions where water shortages are worst.
- **County Drought Taskforces:** A total of 24 counties have established drought task forces to coordinate local drought response. These counties include: Butte, Kern, Madera, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, and Tuolumne.
- **LA-Area Groundwater Project increases use of Recycled Water:** The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board took action last week to increase use of recycled water in its large Montebello Forebay Groundwater Recharge project, potentially saving more than 4.8 million gallons of imported water a year. This project represents the potential of combining water recycling with effective groundwater management to greatly increase water conservation.

## Coastal Region Updates

### **Marin** (as of 4/17/14)

- Despite no rain in the last week, rainfall runoff contributed to a slight increase in reservoir levels from 81% to 82% of capacity for the week ending April 13. Consumption dropped 13% from the same week one year ago.

# County Updates (continued)

## Coastal Region Updates

### SAN FRANCISCO

- Voluntary 10% reduction
- All city departments are directed to take steps immediately to reduce their water consumption by at least 10 percent.
- By April 1, 2014, develop a plan and timeline for replacing potable water with non-potable water sources for street cleaning.
- Effective immediately, all departments shall educate employees and facility visitors about the efficient use of water at City facilities and the need to conserve.

### SAN MATEO

- **March 18,2014 Correction:** The County of San Mateo does not have a Drought Task force. At the March 18,2014 meeting of the County's Emergency Managers' Association addressed forming a task force and received strong push back citing, that California has been in a drought situation for well over 100 years and for San Mateo County Peninsula; is the reason our water storage is in the eastern part of the state.
- **UPDATES:** The County Emergency Managers' Association (EMA) plans to discuss Drought 2014 on May 22 and has invited the Bay Area Water Supply Conservation Agency President, County Agriculture Commissioner and County Public Works Watershed Protection representatives to the meeting; to further discuss forming a Drought Group or a Drought Task force.



# County Updates (continued)

## Coastal Region Updates

### **San Mateo** - continued (as of 4/17/2014)

- County Service Areas - No new updates for La Honda (CSA-7) or Pescadero (CSA-11) other than County Public Works has been requested by the Board of Supervisors/County Manager's Office, to look into the costs and options for providing incentives; such as rebates to customers to install low flow devices (shower heads, toilets, etc.) in their homes or businesses. The plan is Public Works will report back to the Board in June 2014.

### **Solano** (as of 4/17/2014)

- Disaster Council meeting moved to Apr 23 to accommodate multiple scheduling contacts. Ag Commissioner, Solano Irrigation District and Solano Water Agency leaders will present briefings and Q&A. Discussion will include potential Proclamation for Ag related concerns on the County

### **Sonoma** - (as of 4/17/14)

- Two water systems in OA are being placed in "vulnerable" status by CDPH, Mt. Taylor Mobile Home Park and Timber Cove County Water District. Meeting in Santa Rosa with them on April 17.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Butte** (as of 4/17/14)

- Public has been informed through media outlets that Western Canal District will receive 100% of water allocation. The attached letter from DWR to Western Canal District says otherwise.

### **Calaveras** (as of 4/17/14):

- At this time, the County is more concerned about the dry fuels and potential for a major fire than they are with drought.
- Calaveras MAC meeting held on 4/10/2014. County is continuing voluntary conservation measures. Determination made not to proclaim a local emergency or implement mandatory water restrictions. County will reconvene in the summer (date TBD) to evaluate situation again.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### Fresno (as of 4/17/14)

- Status of Electric and Gas Utility Service - Normal
- EF-04 FIRE - Fire season conditions are expected to begin earlier and potentially last longer this year. CAL FIRE has increased its staff earlier this year due to the fuels conditions and the potential for an earlier fire season. Currently, the Fresno-Kings Unit has two-thirds of the peak season staffing and equipment in place due to the fire danger. As the fire potential continues to develop, weekly hazard analyses are being completed throughout the unit to determine when the remaining one-third of the staffing and equipment will be brought online. There is a concern regarding the availability and access to water for fire operations. Finding water will be difficult due to the low level of reservoirs, streams, and lakes.
- EF-05 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services maintains ongoing contact with local stakeholders from Ag, Water, Social Services and Fire to review our current drought impacts and to refine our system for reporting changes as they occur. The representatives in this group will provide regular updates to County OES. This information will be used to plan our response and to maintain and update our weekly situation reports. Planning and Intelligence will continue to update situational status as future changes occur.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno** (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-06 MASS CARE, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES - Due to the drought unemployment will increase significantly. Many of our communities depend largely on farming for their economic support. In some communities we expect unemployment levels to increase to approximately 40 percent, similar to the impacts in previous water-short years, such as 2009.
- With the lack of water we expect to see a significant impact on Ag as well as other industries. A lack of crops/production will lead to a lack of jobs and revenue being generated throughout most of our communities. Many of our residents and communities will suffer. As with the last drought we expect our private non-profit organizations to be heavily impacted with requests for assistance. Most of these agencies are already overwhelmed so they will likely be asking for help to meet the needs of our citizens who don't have resources due to the drought. The County and our cities will have higher operational costs and will not have as much revenue coming in due to the impacts the drought will have on our economy.
- Local Private Non Profit Organizations are beginning to meet to discuss the level of need and what resources will be available to help.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno** (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-11 AGRICULTURE - The Fresno County Ag Commissioner is working with the County Farm Bureau and other partner agencies to attempt to accurately quantify the impacts that the drought is currently having on the agricultural economy in our County as well as projecting future impacts.
- Current impacts: Rangeland conditions are deteriorating since the most recent rain events. Feeding of cattle on rangeland continues. Cattlemen have aggressively culled herds and sold calves early to try to save the mother herd. Well water and carryover allocations of water is being used to protect producing permanent crops. Some orchards have been removed and allocated water is being diverted to younger orchards.
- Anticipated future drought related impacts (some of these impacts are already occurring) Based on a sampling of farmers, Fresno County is on track to fallow at least 200,000 acres of productive farmland this year as a result of the drought. The value of lost crop production is estimated to be approximately \$1.7 billion. The value of lost economic activity tied to reduced crop production is estimated to reach \$5 billion. Plantings of spring lettuce are expected to be reduced by 50%. Plantings of cotton and other row crops are also being reduced. Later in the year we will see reduced production of bell peppers, melons, processing tomatoes and other annual crops. Reduced plantings of these crops will have a major impact on available jobs.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### Fresno (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-11 AGRICULTURE (continued) - Unemployment will increase significantly. In communities that depend largely on farming for their economic support, we can expect to see increases to approximately 40 percent, similar to the impacts in previous water-short years, such as 2009.
- With the lack of water we expect to see a significant impact on Ag as well as other industries. A lack of crops/production will lead to a lack of jobs and revenue being generated throughout most of our communities. Many of our residents and communities will suffer.
- EF-12 UTILITIES - Municipal Water Systems - No jurisdictions are currently reporting water shortage problems. Although some jurisdictions have been given reduced allocations for the upcoming water year, they have indicated that they feel they will be able to get by with the water that they will receive. Some cities are concerned about the expected increase in costs for water and some are seeking USDA assistance to help cover these costs.
- Several communities on the west side of the County rely on surface water to meet their needs. These communities were recently notified of their water allocations for the upcoming year.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### Fresno (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-12 UTILITIES (continued) The City of Coalinga's water allotment will be 3285 AF and they will be implementing Stage 2 water conservation efforts (outdoor irrigation only 2-days per week).
- The City of Huron's water allotment will be 649 AF and they have implemented an alternate day watering schedule. Huron will begin taking steps to implement Stage 4 conservation, which would prohibit outdoor irrigation. The City will address this first through a noticed public hearing, followed by a board-adopted resolution. The City has identified an ag well ¼ mile from their surface water plant that may be suitable for emergency supply. They will approach the owner to begin discussions. Both CDPH and USDA are providing the city with ongoing assistance as they seek to meet their upcoming water needs. Huron has made contact with two farmers, each with ag wells in the vicinity of the City's water treatment plant. The farmers were both supportive of working with the City to meet emergency water supply needs. The Huron City Council adopted a water conservation ordinance and has implemented level four of the ordinance that will stop all landscape irrigation with only minimal exceptions.
- Westlands Water District's M&I water allotment will be 1373 AF. Westlands Water District indicated that they will allow M&I water users "to use up to their historic usage (last year for example) though they must comply with the District's prohibition on outdoor watering this year. There should therefore be no public water systems that have contracts with Westlands for M&I water that should be experiencing critical water shortages this summer.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno** (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-12 UTILITIES (continued) -CDPH Drinking Water Program Engineers are continually working with these and other jurisdictions to monitor water status and provide assistance as needed. The CDPH Fresno and Merced Districts hosted a workshop on April 2, 2014, for the Shaver Lake water systems to discuss drought issues and provide information on drought contingency planning as well as to encourage shared solutions. It was attended by representatives of at least 9 water systems in that area. Per the local CDPH Drinking Water Program Engineers there are currently no reports of water outages or critical water supplies (<60 days) in Fresno County.
- Wells: - There has been a significant increase in the number of permits being issued to drill wells. Permits for well drilling have been approximately double what they were at this time last year. According to an informal survey of local well drillers the average wait time for an Ag well is about 10-12 months. Wait times for domestic wells is about 5-10 months depending on the location.
- FUTURE CONCERNS/ OPERATIONS - At this time there is a great deal of concern regarding the drought but most people think that the major impacts will not be felt for another couple of months. Lack of jobs and the economic impact on communities will likely cause the most strain on our area. Impacted citizens will need assistance with food, rent and utilities. Environmental impacts from the increased utilization of well water will likely lead to subsidence issues and over time will create high salt content in our soils making farm land less productive. Public and private industry will be impacted economically by the lack of water and/or the higher costs associated with obtaining water.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Kern** (as of 4/17/14):

- The drought has left some Kern County ranchers with no option but to begin selling parts of their livestock. Shepherders are one of the ranchers that have been hit the hardest. They say many of the natural green pastures that they once had have turned into a dirt lot because there is no water. Shepherders have turned to hay to feed their livestock but the price of hay is going up as well. Local hay growers said they have had to deal with a high demand of hay in the last several months. The price of hay has gone from around \$210 to over \$240 in the last few weeks.

### **Kings** (as of 4/17/14):

- As reported by the Hanford Sentinel: The Lemoore City Council will consider action Tuesday to adopt a tiered response plan to deal with the drought crisis. The proposed plan outlines methods to urge citizens to conserve water. Enforcement would begin with public education and voluntary compliance, followed by three increasing levels of restrictions placed on water use.

### **Madera** (as of 4/17/14):

- OES will also be working with Central CA Animal Disaster Team in preparing for incident as it progresses.
- Next Drought Task Force meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 2014.
- Still having web EOC access issues and not able to identify if postings have been recorded.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Mariposa** (as of 4/17/14):

- To the Yosemite-Mariposa (Y-M) Regional Water Advisory Council (RWAC) and other interested stakeholders: Please review the attached news items from the California Water Plan eNews update and the list of emerging investments strategies for IRWM, including proposed base-level funding for active Regional Water Management Groups.
- As noted on the eNews page, DWR has released for public comment, the draft 2014 IRWM Grant Guidelines and Drought Grant Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for the recently approved Drought Funding. The public comment period ends May 15, after which the application period opening date will be announced.

### **Merced** (as of 4/17/14):

- Next Drought Taskforce Meeting April 17, 2014.
- Drought Proclamation Renewed, next Renewal will be April 22, 2014

### **Nevada**(as of 4/17/14):

- NID Declared a Drought Emergency - Stage II. Currently no mandatory restrictions but asking a 10-15% voluntary reduction.
- Drought Task Force Meeting - Today - April 15, 2014.
- Drought has no current impact for the eastern portion of Nevada County - Truckee area - Truckee Donner Public Utility District

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Placer (as of 4/17/14):**

- The City of Roseville announced on March 24, mandatory 20 percent water use restrictions effective immediately. The restrictions include a targeted 20% reduction in water use by residents and businesses from normal seasonal use, Commercial water customers are required to reduce irrigation by 30% for existing landscaping, washing of vehicles or boats is prohibited except when using a hose that is equipped with a control nozzle capable of completely shutting off the flow of water or when washed in either an automatic or manual commercial car wash.
- The Nevada Irrigation District Board declaring a stage II drought On April 9th. Highlights from the resolution are below:
  - Request voluntary 10-15% reductions to help enhance carryover storage
  - Inside District- Accept new sales and increases, but with scrutiny. This is a change from their February 12th Board decision.
  - Outside District- no new sales or increases
  - No supplemental water for South Sutter Water District
  - Target goal of 75% (or 110,000AF) of average for storage carryover, which they believe they can achieve with purchasing water from PG&E and voluntary reductions.
  - Water season will start next week, but the reso gives the district the ability to end the season early to ensure carryover storage amounts are met.
  - The board gave staff approval to move forward with purchasing 20,000-25,000 acre feet of water from PG&E at \$30/AF.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Placer-continued** (as of 4/17/14):

Key items from PCWA:

- PG&E released their water number as 60% of normal range for water supply
- Treated water for residential/homeowners- calling for 10-15% voluntary reduction
- Untreated for agriculture- 1" or more mandatory 10%, for less than 1" the reduction is voluntary.

### **Plumas** (as of 4/17/14)

- Drought Preparedness Meeting is scheduled for 4/14/14.

### **San Joaquin County** (as of 4/17/14):

- Due to a schedule conflict, the next Agricultural Drought Task Force meeting will be moved to April 17th.
- South San Joaquin County Irrigation District has decided to fill Woodward Reservoir in Oakdale. The reservoir will be filled May 1st through July 7th.
- SSJID advised water conditions have improved over Jan & Feb and are now expecting to receive 75-80,000 AF more than their initial projection.
- Next Steps: Continued education will be of the utmost importance in the coming weeks. Keep all jurisdictions updated on situations and actions taken by state and federal agencies to assist during the drought.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Siskiyou** (as of 4/17/14):

- The county is still continuing to work with the City of Montague and the Montague Water Conservation District (MWCD) in regard to their water emergency. The city and district are currently working on developing detailed project and cost estimations so they can begin the process of applying for financial assistance through CDPH and USDA.
- The current target project would consist of connecting to an existing water diversion located on the Shasta River just north of Hwy 3. Water pipe would be run from the point of diversion to the City of Montague's treatment facility, which is estimated to be approximately 13,000 feet of pipe. Implementing this project would require a portion of the water pipe to be run under a rail line owned by Union Pacific Railroad. Senator Ted Gaines' office submitted a letter to Union Pacific Railroad on Montague's behalf explaining the circumstances and requesting their assistance in working with us to expedite any processes (See attached letter).
- On 04/10/14, the City of Montague hosted a public forum in regard to the water emergency. Several handouts were provided to the public for their review (See Attached Handouts). MWCD engineer Gary Black addressed attendees in regard to the current water situation at Dwinnel Dam. Black advised the attendees that with consistent conservation, the city would potentially run out of water around August 1, 2014. With a lack of consistent conservation, Black said the city could potentially run out of water as early as July 1, 2014.
- City Mayor Jayne Keller advised attendees that water curtailment was going to become mandatory, explaining the city was going to impose monetary penalties for over-consumption of water. This will be enforced by water meter readings. The higher the water use, the higher the monetary penalty will be. The City of Montague is meeting today (04/11) to develop their water conservation plan and develop a structured penalty matrix.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Siskiyou** (as of 4/17/14):

- At the end of the meeting, the board ratified a resolution proclaiming a local emergency due drought conditions and imminent threat of disaster in the City of Montague.
- The county has been in contact with the City of Etna regarding their water situation. Etna City Clerk Pam Russell advised the city's water is currently stable with no concerns at this time. The city developed a water conservation plan that they plan on implementing, if needed. Russell said their engineer has advised them that he believes the city should be fine until around August or September. He believes they may have to implement their water conservation plan in August or September to get them through the end of the summer, but feels they will have enough water to get to the higher precipitation winter months.

### **Stanislaus** (as of 4/17/14):

- The next Stanislaus County Drought Task Force meeting is scheduled for May 8th.

### **Sutter** (as of 4/17/14):

Continuation of the Emergency Declaration (Resolution # 14-011) was approved 4/8/14.

### **Tuolumne** (as of 4/17/14):

- Next drought task force meeting tentatively scheduled for 5/1/14 at the Tuolumne BOS Chambers.
- TUD reports that Lyons Reservoir is looking better and is starting to fill up. Therefore, they will hold on starting up the pumps at New Melones until we think we need the water the most.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Tuolumne** (as of 4/17/14)

- Tuolumne Utilities District is in the process of finalizing the agreement between SSJID and Chicken Ranch for purchase of water from New Melones. The agreement should be finalized by the end of this week (4/18/2014). One of the issues that is being discussed is whether the water purchased by TUD pumped beyond 9/30/14 will go against this year's water allocation or next year's 14/15. SSJID is waiting for their water allocation before supporting the request for TUD to pump beyond 9/30/2014.
- Tuolumne OES has arranged for four (4) community forums to discuss drought. The first one is scheduled for 4/30/14 a 6:30 pm at the Sonora Opera Hall.

## Southern Region Updates

### **San Luis Obispo County** (as of 4/17/14)

- Due to severe drought conditions, the California Fish and Game Commission adopted, on February 5, 2014 the recommendation of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement emergency regulations that close certain waters to fishing; for San Luis Obispo County this includes all portions of any coastal stream west of any Highway 1 bridge until April 30.

# • County Updates

## Southern Region Updates

### **Santa Barbara** (as of 4/17/14)

- ON FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH, THE US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION NOTIFIED CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY (CCWA) TO STOP PUMPING INTO LAKE CACHUMA:
- Drought Task Force Meeting: Originally scheduled for April 9th, was postponed.
- April 15th: BOS Re-Ratification
- Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA): Purchase of 10,000 AF from rice farmers north of the delta: Continue to negotiate and explore this potential purchase. Conditions of the delta have improved significantly to allow for transfers. The call date for agreeing to this purchase is April 25th. Santa Barbara will continue to negotiate and explore the various issues on this purchase prior to the April 25th call date.
- On Friday, April 4th, the US Bureau of Reclamation notified CCWA to stop pumping into Lake Cachuma. The Bureau has to provide flows into Hilton Creek and the Santa Ynez River for fish. They have two pumps to meet the flow and one is broken.
- In order to make up the difference in the required flows in Hilton Creek and what the one pump can provide, they are using the delivery facilities we use to pump into the Lake to make up the difference.
- CCWA is hiring a vendor to install piping along the side of the spillway at the dam so that CCWA can deliver directly into Cachuma Lake instead of through the existing facilities; hoping to resume deliveries by the middle of next week. Vendor should begin work on Monday 14th. Estimated cost of \$25K. CCWA is in negotiations to purchase and/or exchange water with other State Water Project contractor's carryover water in the San Luis Reservoir. CCWA hopes to have more information on that after meetings in Sacramento next week. CCWA Supplemental Water Purchase Program is fully functioning now.



# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 4/17/14

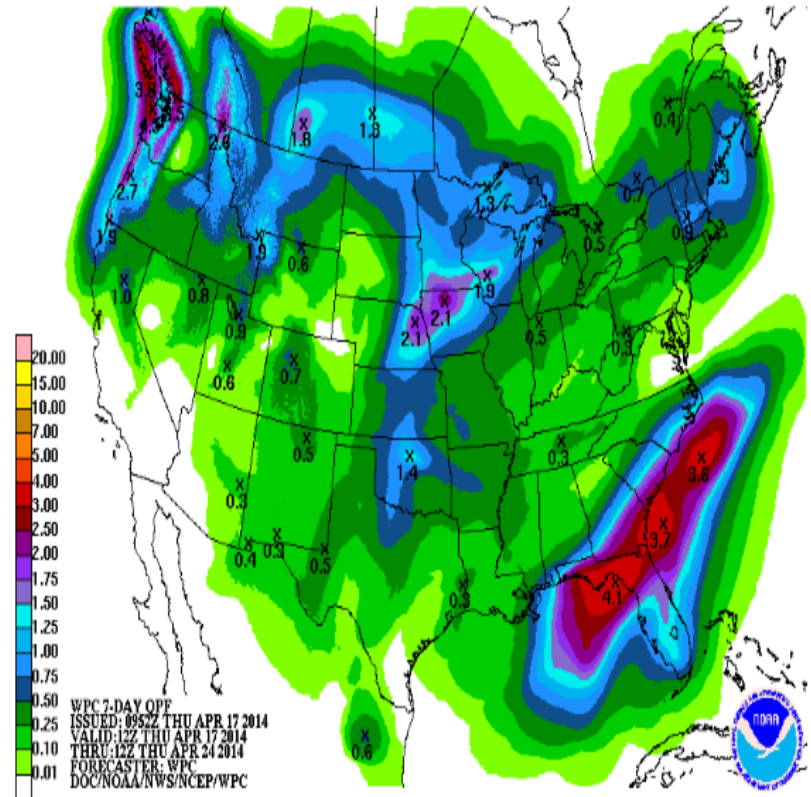
## Northern & Central California

### Eureka Weather:

A weak frontal boundary will bring light rain to areas north of Cape Mendocino today. Building high pressure will result in a mostly dry weekend before a stronger system impacts Northwest California with more widespread rain and mountain snow by the first half of next week.

### San Francisco Weather:

Dry conditions will continue through the weekend. Temperatures for inland areas will cool, but remain warmer than normal. A low pressure system will arrive late Monday into Tuesday bringing a chance of showers as well as cooler temperatures.



<http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml>

# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 4/17/14

## Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

### Sacramento Weather:

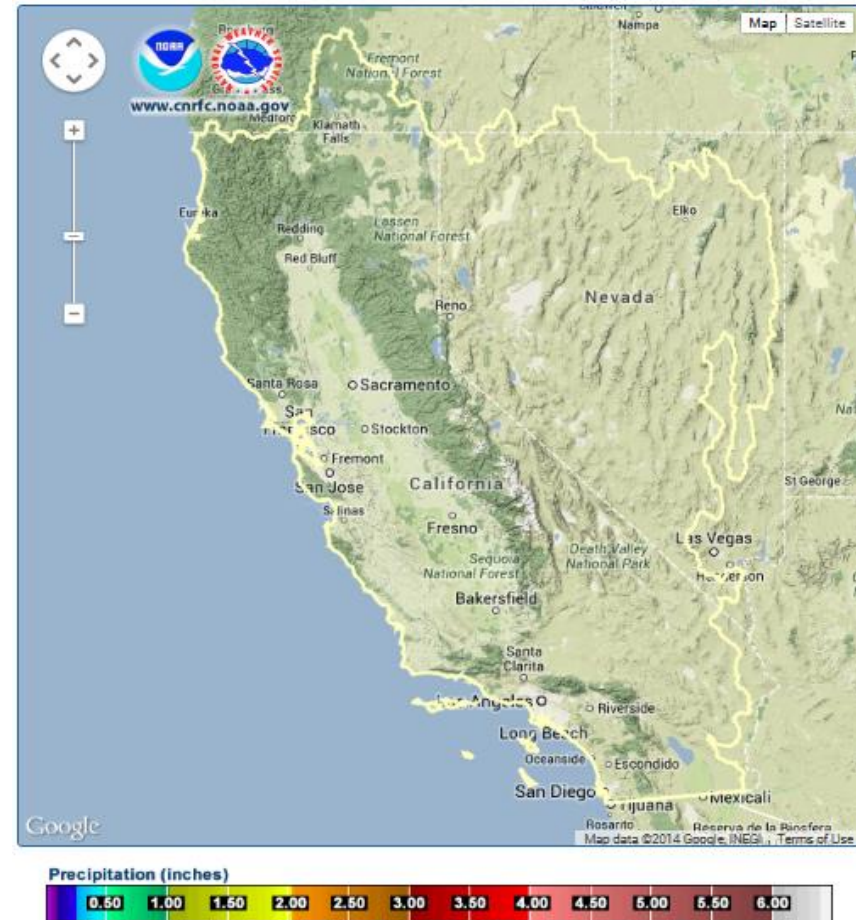
Weak low pressure system will bring a slight chance of showers over the mountains this afternoon and into Friday and over the Northern Sacramento Valley Thursday evening. Temperatures will continue above normal through Sunday then are forecast to cool to near normal to below normal early next week. An unsettled weather pattern moving over the region will bring a chance of showers over interior Northern California Monday night into Tuesday night along with a slight chance of thunderstorms in the Valley Tuesday.

### Hanford Weather:

Dry weather and unseasonably warm afternoon temperatures are expected throughout the Central Valley today. A weak cold front will move southward across the Valley tonight and be followed by slightly cooler weather Friday through Saturday with a slight chance of mainly afternoon showers over the higher elevations of the Sierra. Easter Sunday and Monday will be dry and warmer. A storm system will bring much cooler weather and a chance of showers Tuesday through Wednesday.

## California Precipitation Graphic

72 hour (4/14/14-4/17/14)



<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/google.php>

# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 4/17/14

## Southern California

### Los Angeles Weather:

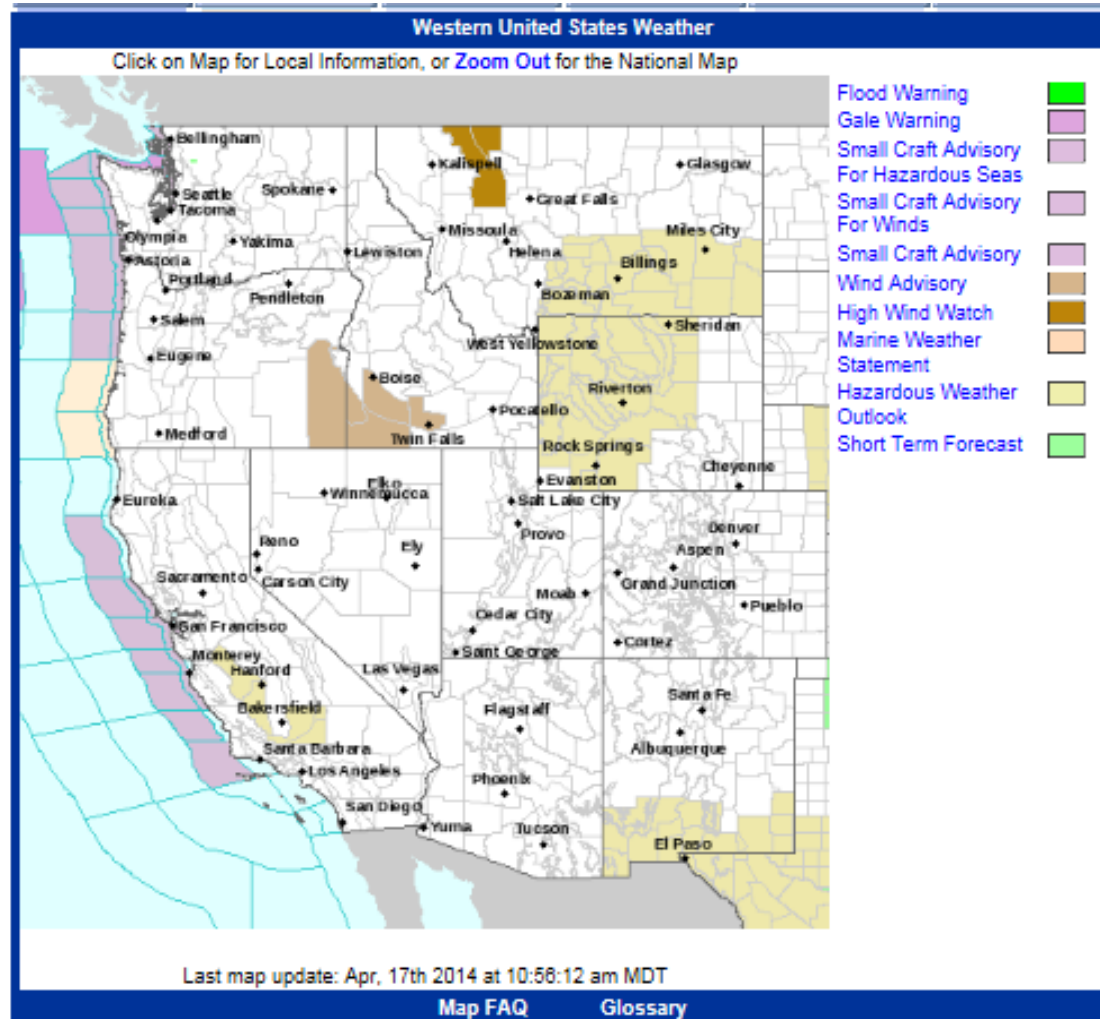
Onshore flow will continue to bring cool temperatures to the Los Angeles area through Saturday with night through morning low clouds and fog. Morning drizzle is possible at coasts and valleys Friday morning. Expect warmer weather late in the weekend before a trough approaches on Tuesday bringing clouds and a cooling trend.

### Orange, San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather: Southeast California Weather:

Seasonal weather can be expected today with increasing high clouds. A low pressure trough will move across Southern California Friday bringing extensive low clouds and a small chance of a shower in the mountains. Higher pressure returns Saturday through Monday with warmer weather and less extensive coastal clouds. A stronger trough of low pressure will bring cooler windy weather next Tuesday and Wednesday.

# State Weather Map

Information as of 4/17/14



<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/>



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## National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



### Legend

#### Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

#### High Risk Events

- Wind
- Hot and Dry
- Lightning

#### Missing Stations

- Yurok
- Whitmore Calif.

### California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Tue Apr 15	Wed Apr 16	Thu Apr 17	Fri Apr 18	Sat Apr 19	Sun Apr 20	Mon Apr 21	Tue Apr 22
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marine								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

#### Weather

High pressure ridge will briefly build in across the region today with warm/dry conditions along with afternoon temperatures 5-10 deg above normal. At the surface some light northerly/offshore flow will keep many areas quite dry. Next cold front approaches Thursday with increasing SW winds and scattered showers over far Nm areas. Clearing with seasonable conditions this weekend as the region will be in-between high and low pressure systems, producing broad westerly/zonal flow. Early next week a deep low pressure system will drop down from AK, with increasing clouds and instability, along with widespread showers/T-storms for many areas.

More detailed information can be viewed through our online fire weather briefing:

[http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/brief\\_files/brief.mpd](http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/brief_files/brief.mpd)

#### Fuels/Fire Potential

The recent warm dry weather has pushed 100-hr fuel moistures down into an 11-15% range in some drier PSAs, and ERCs have been rising in the recent warm, dry weather. This has led to "Dry" matrix cells in the two Bay region PSAs, and the Mid Coast to Mendocino PSA, as well as the Sacramento Valley. Mitigating factors will be overall green-up. Trend towards cooler and more humid conditions will trend these PSA's back into the **MOIST** category later in the period, especially with the widespread showers possible by early next week.

Annual grasses are in early stages of curing in some of the drier, and/or poorer soil areas at lower elevations. Our post-winter snowpack remains at historical lows for mid-April, exposing fuels at mid to higher elevations to the elements significantly earlier than average dates.

Most of Northern California remains in **Severe to Extreme** longer-term drought. For the latest drought map see: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

#### Resources

North OPS: Preparedness Level 1  
National: Preparedness Level 1  
MACS Mode 2





### Legend

#### Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

#### High Risk Events

- Windy and Dry
- Lightning

#### Missing Stations

- Devore

## California - South Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Issued: Thursday, Apr 17, 2014

Parameters:

Predictive Service Area	Wed Apr 16	Thu Apr 17	Fri Apr 18	Sat Apr 19	Sun Apr 20	Mon Apr 21	Tue Apr 22	Wed Apr 23
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

#### Weather

A trough over the Pacific Ocean will approach the region today and will be over the state on Friday. This will result in lower temperatures and higher humidity throughout the region during the next couple of days. Daytime highs by Friday will be in the 50s and 60s in the mountains, 70s in the valleys, and in the 80s across the lower deserts. Minimum humidity will be above 20%, except for the deserts where values will be in the teens. The marine layer will deepen along the coast with low clouds, fog, and areas of drizzle spreading into the coastal slopes by Friday morning. Isolated showers and possibly a thunderstorm will be possible over the mountains and deserts of southern California Friday, with scattered showers and thunderstorms over the Sierra Crest during the afternoon hours both Friday and Saturday. Rainfall amounts will be less than 1/4 of an inch. Winds will generally be southwest to northwest 10 to 15 mph except locally stronger over the desert passes and over the higher terrain through Friday. High pressure will build into the area this weekend with daytime highs climbing back into the 80s across the inland valleys by Sunday and Monday. A deep trough is forecast to drop into the state next Tuesday and Wednesday bringing a threat for scattered showers and thunderstorms to much of central California during that time. Any precipitation that may occur will be of the convective type with varying rainfall amounts. Snow levels with this system may drop to around 7,000 feet in the Sierra. Temperatures will be below normal and winds will become strong and gusty across the mountains and deserts by Tuesday.

#### Fuels/Fire Potential

Live fuel moisture values within Chamise have risen above 80% across the region, with many areas seeing values above 100%. Annual grasses below 3,000 feet are still green, but are now beginning to show signs of curing. Given the current state of the fuels and the expected weather over the next week, large fire potential will remain low throughout the region during the forecast period. The only areas of any concern during the next few days would be along the desert slopes of the Angeles, the San Bernardino, and the Cleveland National Forests where breezy afternoon winds will combine with humidity values in the teens. Fuels in these areas are drier and could foster rapid rates of spread during the peak heating hours of the day. Overall, we expect light initial attack activity throughout the region during the next few days.

#### Resources

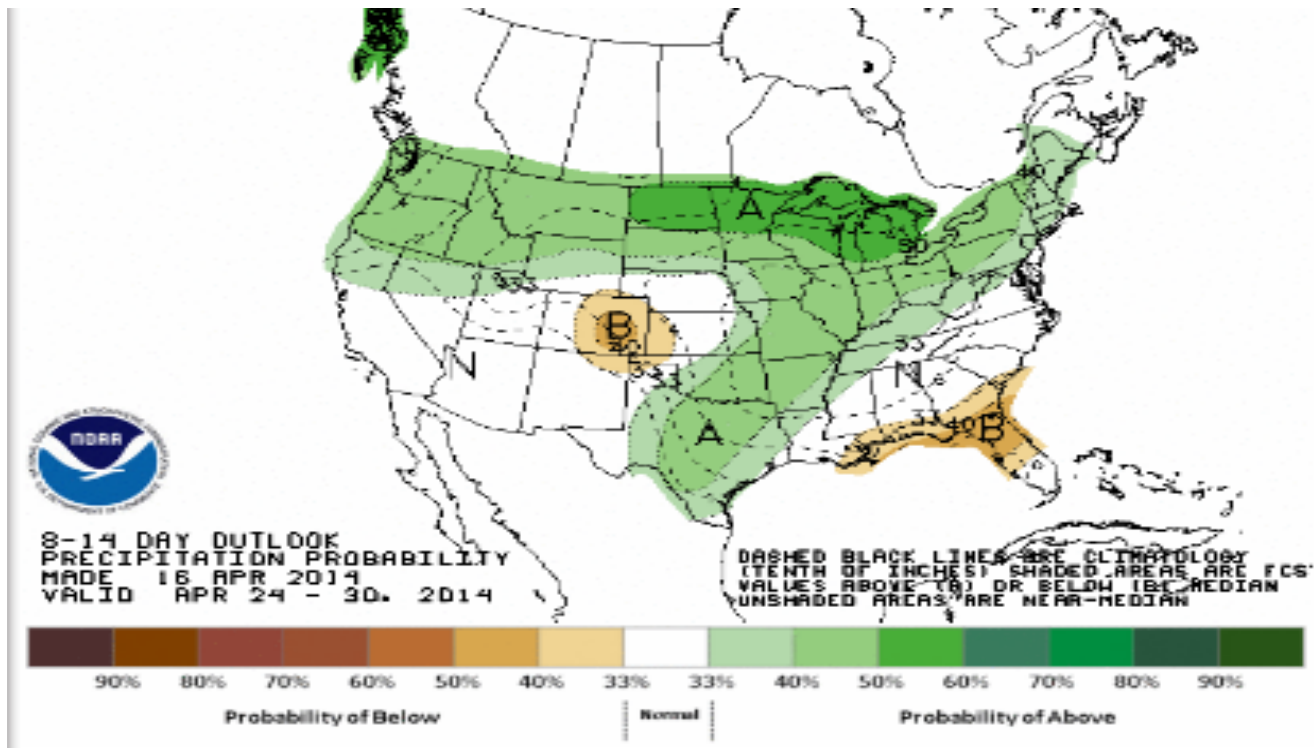
CWCG Preparedness Level 2, MACS Mode 2

<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8>



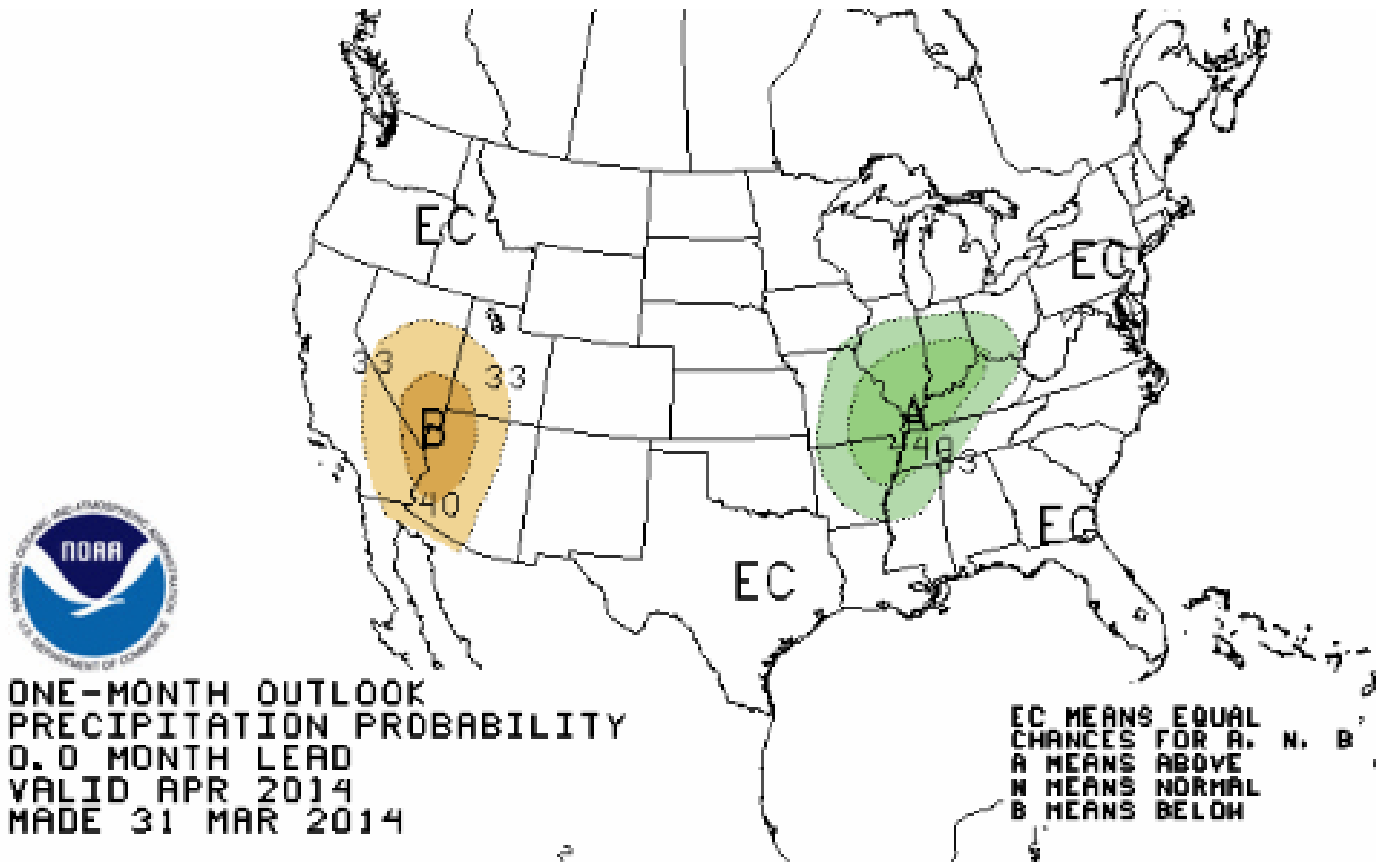
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# 8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for April 24 – April 30, 2014



<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>

## March-April Precipitation Probability Outlook



<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



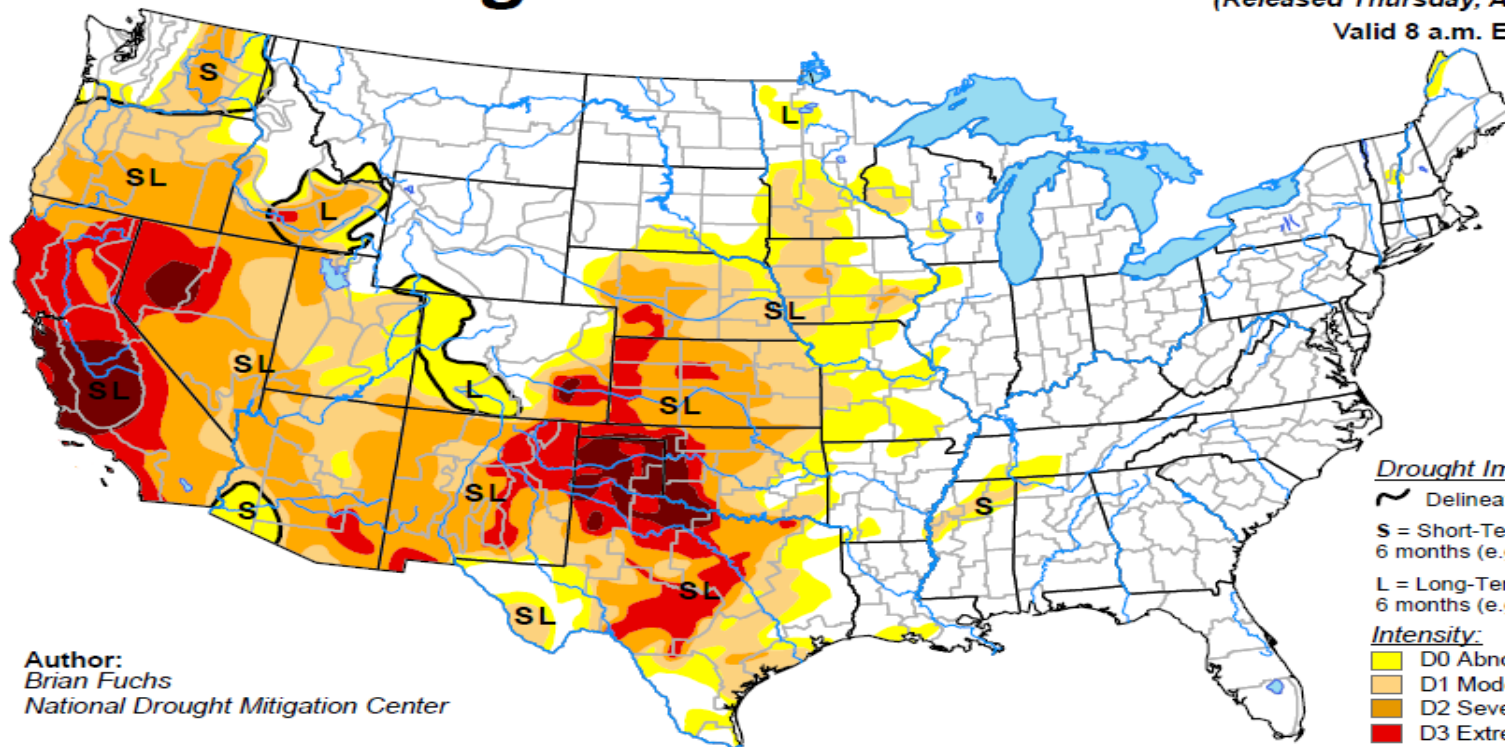
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# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 15, 2014

(Released Thursday, Apr. 17, 2014)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center

## Drought Impact Types:

~ Delineates dominant impacts

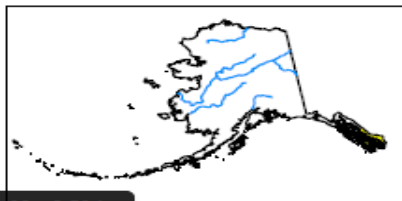
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

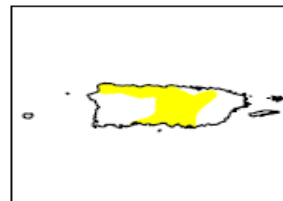
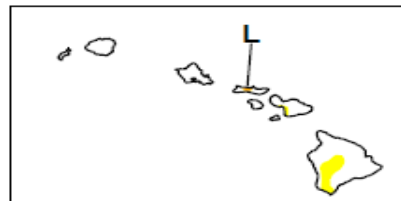
## Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



11.00 x 8.50 in



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

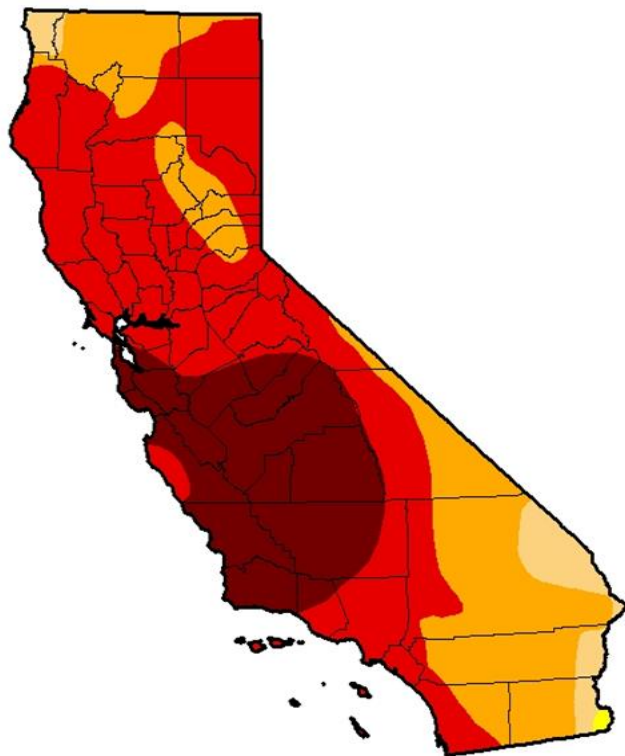
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



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# Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

## U.S. Drought Monitor California



April 8, 2014

(Released Thursday, Apr. 10, 2014)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	99.81	95.21	68.76	23.49
Last Week 4/1/2014	0.00	100.00	99.81	95.21	68.76	23.49
3 Months Ago 1/7/2014	1.43	98.57	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago 4/9/2013	2.84	97.16	48.39	23.22	0.00	0.00

### Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
D2 Severe Drought	

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

### Author:

Brian Fuchs

National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 68% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>

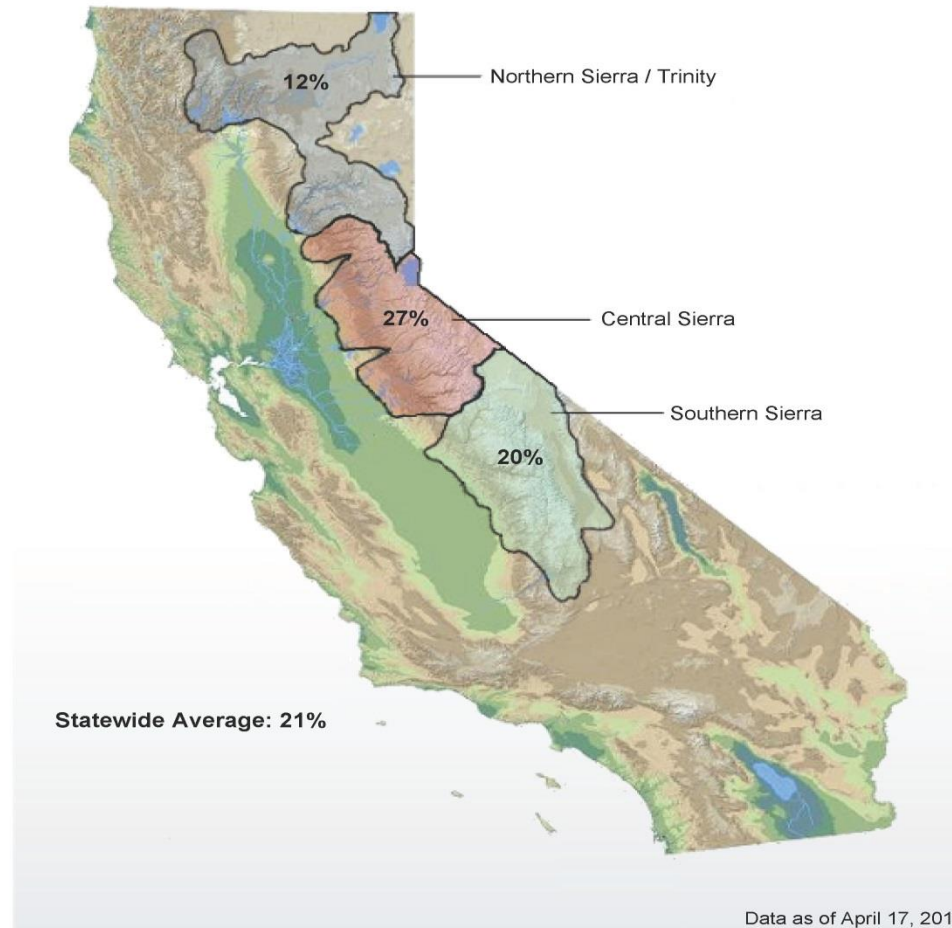


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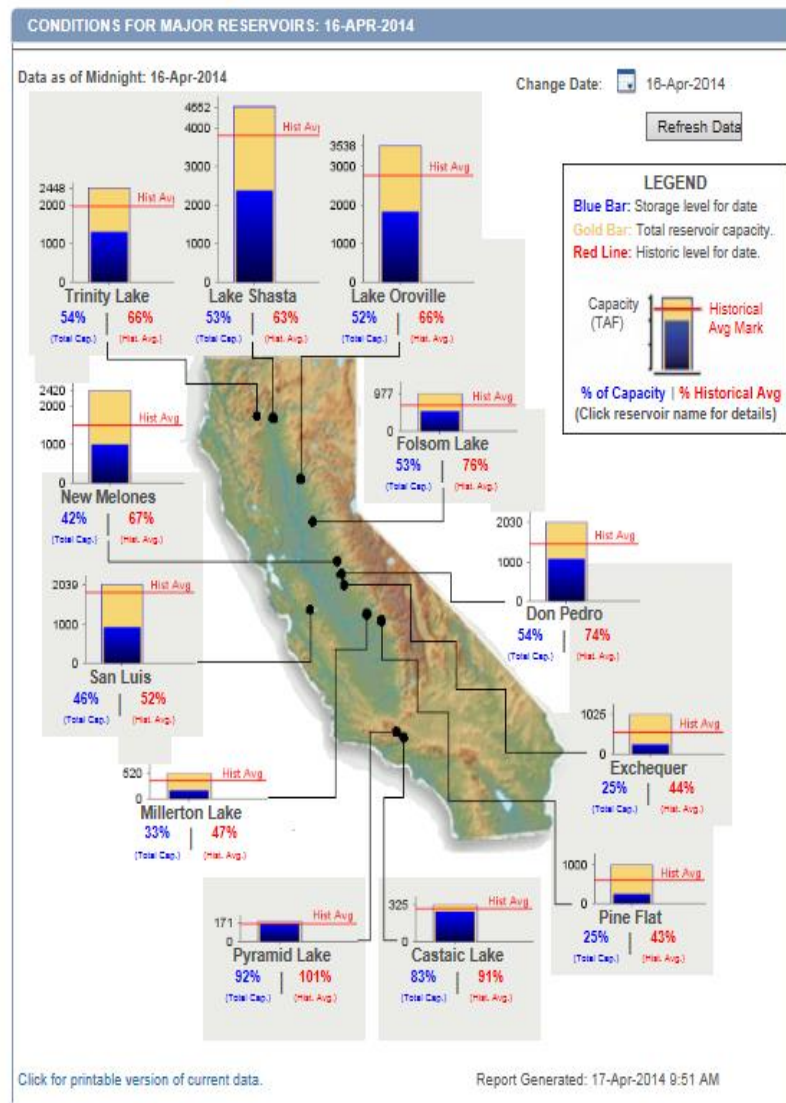
# Statewide Summary of Snow Water Content

Current Regional Snowpack from Automated Snow Sensors - % of April 1 Average



Updated 04/17/2014 09:15 AM

## California Data Exchange Center - Reservoirs



## Reservoir Levels

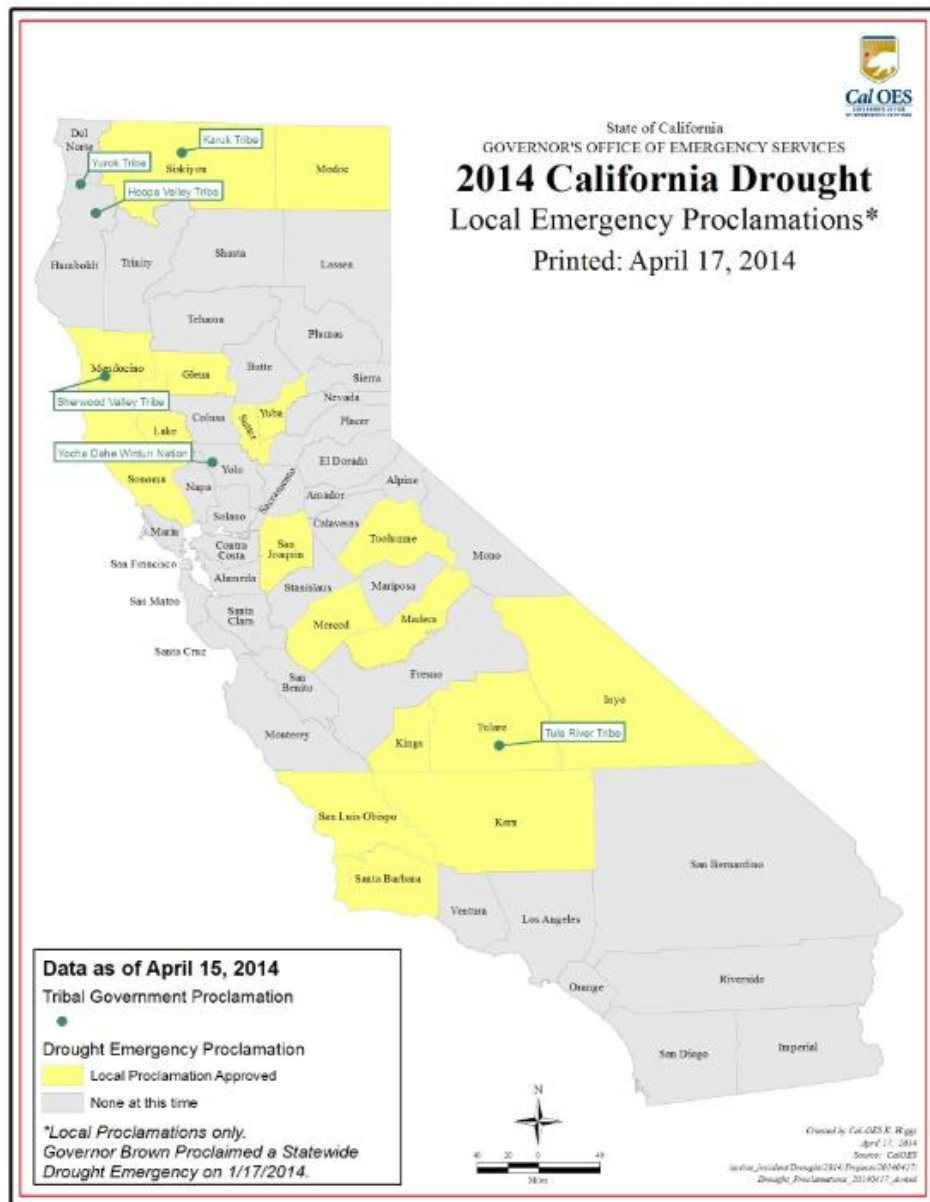
Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.



## Proclamations

### State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

### Counties

Glenn (1/22/14)  
Inyo (1/29/14)  
Kern (1/14/14)  
Kings (1/14/14)  
Lake (1/17/14, ratified 3/4/14)  
Madera (1/17/14)  
Mendocino (1/7/14)  
Merced (2/25/14)  
Modoc (3/4/14)  
San Joaquin (2/25/14)  
San Luis Obispo (3/11/14)  
Santa Barbara (1/17/14)  
Siskiyou (3/11/2014)  
Sonoma (2/25/14)  
Sutter (2/11/14)  
Tulare (2/4/14)  
Tuolumne (2/4/14)  
Yuba (2/18/14)

### Tribal

Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)  
Sherwood Valley Pomo Indian Tribe (2/19/14)  
Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)  
Tule River Indian Tribe (1/30/14)  
Karuk Tribe (2/18/14)  
Yocha Dehe Wintun (3/25/2014)

### Federal

None



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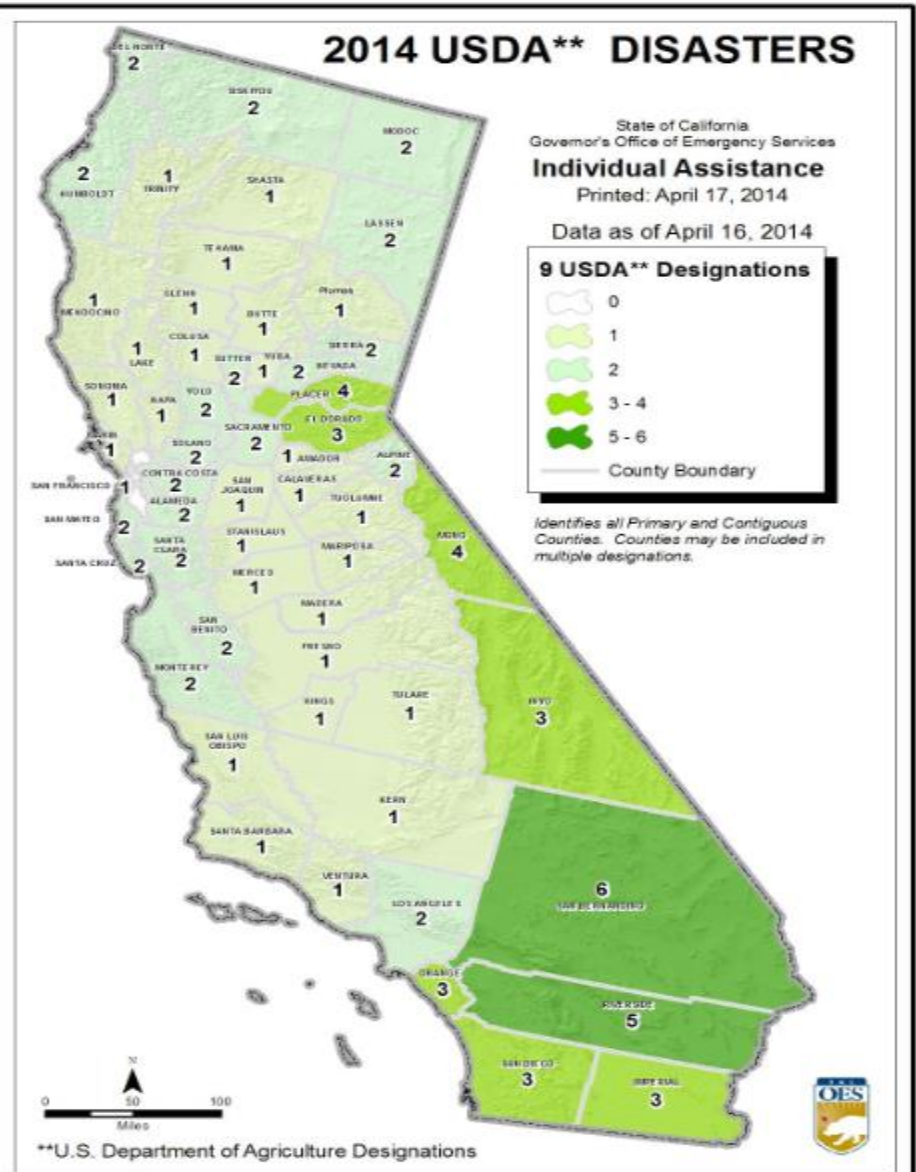
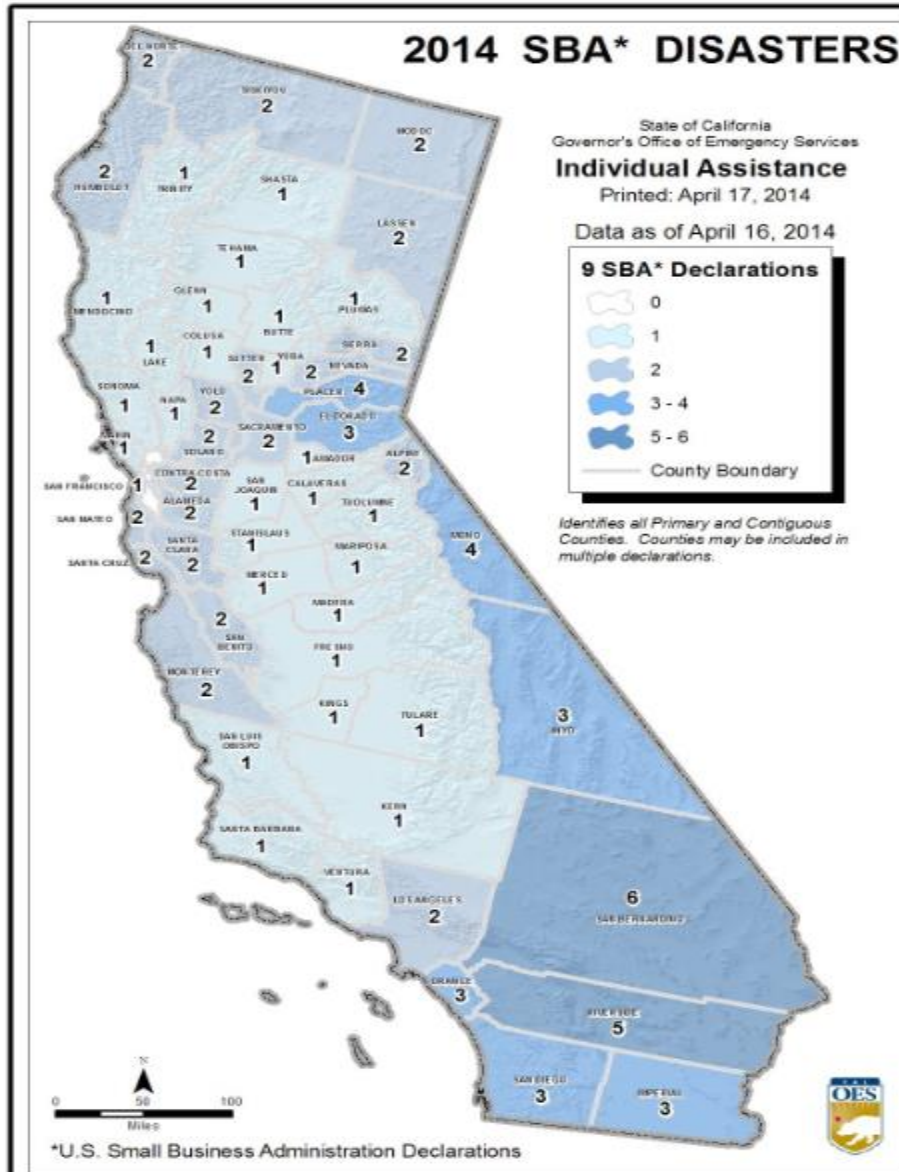


## USDA Disaster Designation

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 56 of 58 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 2 contiguous counties. This means that every county in California is now eligible to receive assistance.

# USDA Disaster Designation – Individual Assistance

Information as of 4/17/14



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